

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q91406

Hajime KONDO

Appln. No.: 10/558,389

Group Art Unit: 1796

Confirmation No.: 5714

Examiner: Peter MULCAHY

Filed: November 29, 2005

For: MODIFIED NATURAL RUBBER OR MODIFIED NATURAL RUBBER LATEX, AND
RUBBER COMPOSITION AND PNEUMATIC TIRE

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND
ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENTS**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Restriction and Election of Species Requirement dated December 8, 2008 (time for responding extended to March 8, 2009, by a Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith), Applicant elects Group III, Claims 5-8, 22, and 31 for examination. This election is made without traverse.

In addition, the Examiner has identified the application as containing claims directed to more than one distinct species of monomer to be polymerized and believes Claims 1-31 are generic. In response to the Examiner's requirement, Applicant elects a polar-group containing monomer as a species of monomer to be polymerized for examination. Claims 5-8 are readable on the elected species.

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Applicant submits that if any of the elected claims is found to be allowable, claims dependent therefrom should similarly be considered allowable in the same application.

Applicant reserves the right to file a Divisional Application directed to non-elected claims Claims 1-4, 9-21, and 26-30.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: February 23, 2009